

REMARKS

I. Status of claims

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 8, and cancelled claims 7 and 15-18 without prejudice and disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Applicant has also amended the specification to correct a typographical error. Upon entry of this Reply, claims 1-6 and 8 remain pending and under current examination.

II. Regarding the non-final Office Action

In the Office Action of February 2, 2006, the Examiner allowed claims 1-6; objected to claim 8 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim; rejected claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,806,972 to *Daddis et al.* (“*Daddis*”); and rejected claims 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Daddis*.

Applicant has canceled independent claim 7 and rewritten claim 8 in independent form including all the limitation of claim 7. As such, the objection to claim 8 should be withdrawn and claim 8 should be allowed. Applicant further addresses the rejection below.

III. Regarding the rejection of claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). However, to advance prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claims 7 and 15. The rejection of claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is therefore rendered moot by Applicant's cancellation of the claims.

IV. Regarding the rejection of claims 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 16-18 over *Daddis* under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). However, to advance prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claims 16-18. The rejection of claims 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is therefore rendered moot by Applicant's cancellation of the claims.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 

Sherry X. Wu
Reg. No. 54,553

Dated: May 1, 2006